

AIM

THE BULLETIN
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MOVEMENT

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CORE ENDORSES COOK

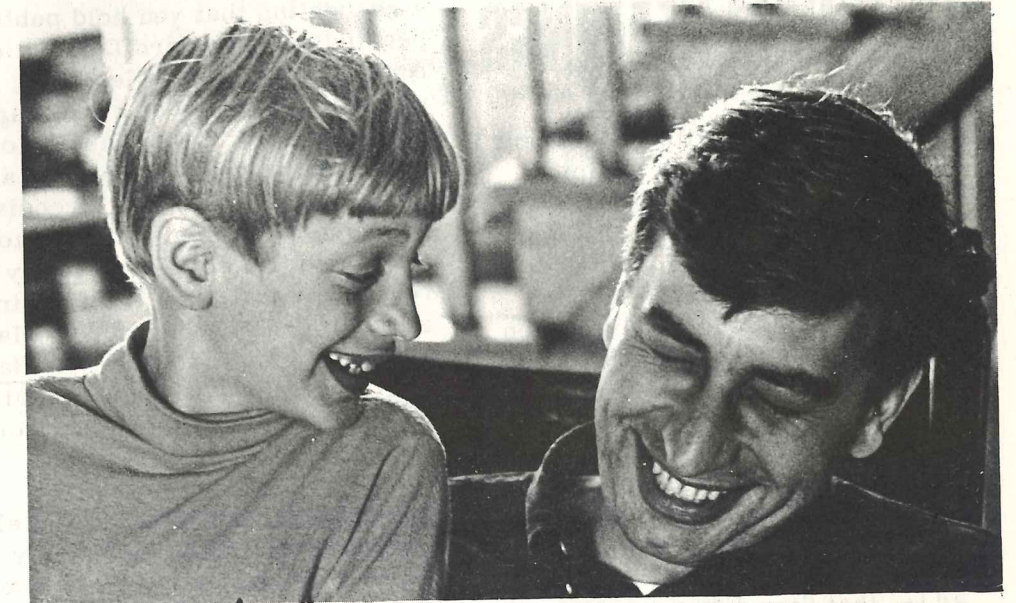
On May 12 the New Haven chapter of the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE) endorsed Robert Cook in his bid for a Congressional seat in Connecticut's Third District. Recognizing Cook's progressive position on Civil Rights, Haywood Burns, CORE spokesman, said, "On national issues of Civil Rights he has spoken boldly and will continue to do so, unlike the present Democratic incumbent. On local issues we are pleased that Bob Cook supports the recommendations of the Commission on Equal Opportunities regarding police-minority group relations in New Haven."

Responding to the CORE endorsement, Cook stated:

"I welcome the support of CORE and all citizen's groups which are concerned as I am with effective enforcement of existing Civil Rights statutes and with the continuing struggle against inequality and discrimination in American life. CORE's endorsement means that there is concern in this district for an end to timid enforcement and for a further assault upon the problems of housing, law enforcement, and jury selection."

In support of the Cook campaign, CORE has offered the use of their office at 154 Dixwell Avenue, and it will become a field office for the campaign.

PLEASE PASS AIM NEWSLETTER
ON TO FRIENDS -- AND SEND US
NEW NAMES FOR THE MAILING
LIST!



Robert Cook and son Christopher.

WELCOME TO AIM

We, the members of AIM, are people -- young and old, black and white, workers and students -- from all over the 3rd District. The form our movement takes and the success it achieves depend entirely on your active participation. This is not a politicians' campaign! We warmly welcome your contributions, comments and criticisms. Write to AIM, or better yet, come to the office at 241 Orange Street and talk over your ideas with us.

These are the people you are most likely to meet at AIM headquarters:

Robert Cook --
AIM Candidate for Congress

Robert Zellner -- Campaign Manager
Nina Adams -- Secretary
Joan Stone -- Treasurer
Mike Parrish -- News Director
Robert Gellbach -- Finance Chairman

VOTERS PLEDGE CAMPAIGN

"Peace through political action" was the cry as several hundred delegates met at the Statler Hotel in Washington on Saturday, May 14. The call became more emphatic on Sunday when some 10,000 demonstrators marched to the White House to deposit signed Voters' Pledges, and then continued to the Sylvan Theatre for a giant outdoor rally.

The Saturday p.m. session, chaired by Yale Chaplain Rev. William Sloane Coffin, began with a discussion on political effectiveness. Representatives George Brown, Jr., and Don Edwards, both of California, led the discussion and emphasized the need for a continuing organized political force. Reports were read by other peace candidates, including James Dinsmoor (Ind.), David Frost (N.J.), Rev. James Watson (N.Y.), and Ted Weiss (N.Y.). Although some candidates expressed

Cont. -- Next Page

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COOK CALLS FOR VIET-NAM HEARINGS

Robert Cook met with the current Congressman, Robert Giaimo, Saturday, May 14, in New Haven, after weeks of letters and telegrams from Cook and many other area residents calling for local open hearings to get people's views on the Viet-Nam war. Cook's belief, expressed after this meeting, was that Giaimo could not understand that a "politician" could be seriously concerned about letting people in the district express their opinions on the war and not simply want to use the issue as a political tactic. Cook added that "the difference between him and myself" would probably be a major issue of the campaign, "in the sense that I'm not looking for a political career; I'm doing this because I feel I'm really committed to some of these principles. It's a different kind of campaign, a different kind of candidate."

As early as October, 1965, several thousand postcards were sent to the incumbent by the New Haven-Yale Committee for Peace in Viet-Nam, the local chapter of SANE, and other citizens' groups. Cook's telegram of May 4 read: "As a constituent and a representative of many citizens who disagree with American policy," I urge the Representative to hold "public, impartial hearings" on the war. Cook also pointed to those hearings already held in their districts by such Congressmen as: Benjamin Rosenthal (D.-N.Y.), William Broomfield (R.-Mich.), William F. Ryan (D.-N.Y.), Charles Diggs (D.-Mich.), Robert Kastenmeier (D.-Wis.), Donald Fraser (D.-Minn.), and George Brown

(D.-Cal.). Cook concluded: "Surely these manifestations of local and national concern cannot be ignored by an elected representative of the people. Let the many voices of your constituents in the Third District be heard."

Bob Cook then sent a second telegram to the incumbent on May 11th: "Having received no response from you concerning my telegram of May 4 requesting that you hold public hearings in the Third District on American policy in Viet-Nam, I would like to request a meeting with you at your office in Washington. I will come to your office at 10 a.m., Monday, May 16 unless I receive word from you suggesting a more convenient time." The next day Cook received a telegram from Giaimo suggesting a meeting in New Haven at 10 a.m., May 14. The New Haven Register (May 13) reported that the incumbent said he would not hold public hearings.

On Saturday, Bob Cook, Bob Zellner, and Mrs. Wade Eaton duly met with the Representative at his office in New Haven. Cook presented a letter to his opponent which read in part: "I ask that you hold public hearings in Connecticut's Third Congressional District on the war in Viet-Nam. I make this request as a constituent and as a representative of many citizens in your district who do not agree with the present course of American policy in Viet-Nam."

"Speaking at a fund-raising dinner Thursday night, the President of the United States called upon all elected Democrats to support his Administration's policy in Viet-Nam and to conduct their campaigns this fall on the basis of that policy. I do not at this time ask that you defend the Administration's policy in Viet-Nam, nor do I ask that you personally engage in debate during the course of public hearings in the Third District. This must be done during the campaign ahead. Now I only ask that you, as the elected representative of the people of this district, provide a forum for discussion, that you lend your office to the call for public hearings on the war in Viet-Nam."

VOTERS PLEDGE CONT.

little hope of winning office this year, all emphasized the importance of their campaigns for immediate political expression and organization for the future.

At present, there are 46 peace candidates involved in primary battles, including several Republicans. At least one other independent besides Bob Cook is campaigning. The experiences of one type of independent approach were presented by Clifton Whittley of the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party.

Representatives of the Cook for Congress campaign in Washington included Bob Cook, Bob Zellner, Fred Harris, Lou and Betty Zemel, Jack Osborne, and Don Chambers. They informed the convention of a rally planned for July, at Powder Hill, Middlefield, Connecticut. Many well known musical performers have agreed to participate in the program, and peace candidates will again have an opportunity to share their experiences and plan further action. Delegates at the convention planning to participate in the rally included Julian Bond, I. F. Stone, Dagmar Wilson, Benjamin Spock and Pete Seeger.

At the Saturday evening meeting it was decided to set up machinery for a detailed information exchange among New England candidates, and the Sunday morning meeting decided to continue the Voters' Pledge Campaign until November. Good delegate participation in discussions was typical of these meetings as well as of the convention as a whole. Perfect weather greeted the Sunday p.m. march and rally. The march was peaceful, the rally enthusiastic.

The weekend must be judged a success for the National Peace Movement and for the Bob Cook campaign. The peace candidates gained supporters, information, and encouragement. Most important, each candidate and delegate left Washington with a diminished sense of isolation and renewed confidence that this senseless war can be stopped.

The United States opposed this resolution.

A year later in November, 1963, 84 member nations approved Resolution A/1899, which urged all states to refrain especially "from the supply in any manner or form of any petroleum or petroleum products to South Africa." Only five member nations voted against this resolution besides South Africa: the United States, Britain, and France (the three largest investors in South Africa) and Spain and Portugal, which still have colonies in Africa.

Because of these five nations South Africa is now in a position to nullify the effects of the present international oil embargo on Rhodesia. In the beginning of March this year it was learned that the Verwoerd government has been making daily shipments of oil into that country. Although it is impossible to estimate the exact size of these shipments, a Johannesburg newspaper, according to the New York Herald Tribune (3/4/66), "did put one recent daily shipment at 32,500 gallons. . . it was reported that Rhodesia had commandeered all its oil tankers and planned to use them to ship oil from South Africa." Oil which we sell to South Africa, aside from its importance to Verwoerd, can now end up maintaining Ian Smith and his government. America could act now. According to the American Committee on Africa, "A U.S. boycott (refusal to buy) and an embargo (refusal to sell) would be more effective against South Africa than they have been, for example, against Cuba because they would have: (1) United Nations support, (2) Soviet support, (3) the cooperation of almost every country in Asia and Africa. If the U.S. led the way, England, especially with a Labor government, would find it difficult to stand alone in defense of apartheid."

It must be remembered that economic pressure is not a mode of action unfamiliar to the U.S. At present the U.S. boycotts and embargoes countries inhabited by over a third of the world's population.

As one leading statesman in South Africa said in '63, "So long as United States banks and business back us,

we can go ahead." Almost as if in response to this, a prevalent attitude in the American business community is exemplified by the statements of General Norstad, retired NATO Supreme Commander, and his business colleague, Mr. Harold Boeschenstein. Both are top American executives, and both flew to Johannesburg two weeks ago with a \$1.4 million investment blueprint for expanding a fibreglass plant in the Transvaal. In South Africa they said, "We have full confidence in South Africa -- not only we as individuals but the United States and the American public as well." Referring to U.N. discussions Boeschenstein stated that, "Any boycott moves do not reflect the general opinion of the people of the United States nor of its businessmen. We have great appreciation of South Africa's importance as an ally and as an economic force in the free world."

There are obvious reasons why South Africa is attractive to American businessmen. In 1962 alone American companies earned \$72 million in South Africa, which was nearly double the 11.8% average profit reported by the U.S. Department of Commerce on U.S. investments in all foreign countries. These fabulous profits, however, are the result of the low wages imposed by the apartheid government on black laborers. In 1962 the average black mine worker earned less than a dollar a day.

America and individual Americans could be doing much to change conditions in South Africa, but much to its disgrace the United States has instead made a concerted effort to maintain these conditions. In 1961 shortly after the Sharpeville massacre, there was a mass exodus of foreign capital out of South Africa. This was caused by a general panic over the possibility of a black revolution and the uncertainties brought about by the expulsion-resignation of South Africa from the British Commonwealth. South African gold and foreign exchange holdings dropped below the \$280-million danger point as defined by South African bankers to a critical low of \$216 million, and the future for Verwoerd's politics began to look a little bleak.

It was at this point that Americans came to the rescue. In 1961 alone American companies increased their investments by \$23, and an improved trade balance with the United States furnished another \$50 million. In addition to this, \$150 million in loans were made to South Africa by U.S. owned and U.S. influenced institutions. It is possible that things might be different in South Africa today if attitudes had been different in America in 1961. Our Atomic Energy Commission is just one of several perennial blessings to the South African economy. In 1962 alone the Commission paid \$97 million for South African uranium, which accounted for 40% of American imports and which according to President Johnson was actually surplus to the United States! Today the United States accounts for about a half billion dollars (about 20%) of South Africa's trade.

Our political and economic support of South Africa is distressing enough in itself, but unfortunately this has led to certain kinds of military support. On July 8, 1957 the United States agreed to help South Africa become "one of the select band of nuclear nations", as a South African publication put it. The following is part of a March 26, '66 news release from the Information Service of South Africa entitled, "U.S. Firm Builds S.A. Atom Reactor":

Allis-Chalmers Atomic Energy Division reported last week that SAFARI, a research and test reactor it designed and built in the Republic of South Africa, achieved its initial nuclear chain reaction on March 18 and will be fully operational this spring. . . .

At present our involvement with South Africa is being re-evaluated in Congressional hearings headed by Barat O'Hara in Washington. Write to Barat O'Hara or directly to the President now, protesting U.S. economic support of the apartheid government in South Africa, and get others to do the same. American complicity in South African racism has too long been ignored by the American public.

Bruce Detwiler